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OR

WEEKLY GAZETTE.

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The IDLER. No. 39.

SINCE the publication of the letter, concerning the condition of those who are confined in gaols by their Creditors, an enquiry is said to have been made, by which it appears that more than twenty thousand are at this time prisoners for debt.

We often look with indifference on the successive parts of that, which, if the whole were seen together, would shake us with emotion. A Debtor is dragged to prison, pitied for a moment, and then forgotten, another follows him, and is lost alike in the caverns of oblivion; but when the whole mass of calamity rises up at once, when twenty thousand reasonable Beings are heard all groaning in unnecessary misery, not by the infirmity of nature, but the mistake or negligence of policy, who can forbear to pity and lament, to wonder and abhor?

There is here no need of declamatory vehemence; we live in an age of commerce and computation; let us, therefore coolly enquire what is the sum of evil which the imprisonment of Debtors brings upon our country.

It seems to be the opinion of the later Computists, that the inhabitants of England do not exceed six millions, of which twenty thousand is the three-hundredth part. What shall we say of the humanity or the wisdom of a nation that voluntarily sacrifices one in every three-hundred to lingering destruction!

The misfortunes of an Individual do not extend their influence to many; yet, if we consider the relations and effects of consanguinity and friendship, and the general reciprocation of wants and benefits, which make one man dear or necessary to another, it may reasonably be supposed, that every man languishing in prison gives trouble of some kind to two others who love or need him. By this multiplication of misery we see distress extended to the hundredth part of the whole society.

If we estimate at a shilling a day what is lost by the inaction and consumed in the support of each man thus chained down to involuntary idleness, the publick loss will rise in one year to three hundred thousand pounds; in ten years to more than a sixth part of our circulating coin.

I am afraid that those who are best acquainted with the state of our prisons, will confess that my conjecture is too near the truth, when I suppose that the corrosion of resentment, the heaviness of sorrow, the corruption of confined air, the want of exercise, and sometimes of food, the contagion of diseases from which there is no retreat, and the severity of tyrants against whom there can be no resistance, and all the complicated horrors of a prison, put an end every year to the life of one in four of those that are shut up from the common comforts of human life.

Thus perish yearly five thousand men, overborne with sorrow, consumed by famine, or putrified by filth; many of them in the most vigorous and useful part of life, for the thoughtless and imprudent are commonly young, and the active and busy are seldom old.

According to the rule generally received, which supposes that one in thirty dies yearly, the race of man may be said to be renewed at the end of thirty years. Who would have believed till now, that of every English generation an hundred and fifty thousand perish in our gaols! That in every century, a nation eminent for science, studious of commerce, ambitious of empire, should willingly lose, in noisome dungeons, five hundred thousand of its inhabitants: A number greater than has ever been destroyed in the same time by the Pestilence and Sword!

A very late occurrence may shew us the value of the number which we thus condemn to be useless; in the re-establishment of the Trained Bands, thirty thousand are considered as a force sufficient against all exigencies: While, therefore, we detain twenty thousand in prison, we shut up in darkness and uselessness two thirds of an army which ourselves judge equal to the defence of our country.

The Monastic Institutions have been often blamed as tending to retard the increase of mankind. And perhaps retirement ought rarely to be permitted, except to those whose employment is consistent with abstraction, and who tho' solitary will not be idle; to those whom infirmity makes useless to others, or to those who have paid their due proportion to Society, and who, having lived for others, may be honourably dismissed to live for themselves. But whatever be the evil or the folly of these retreats, those have no right to censure them whose Prisons contain greater numbers than the Monasteries of other countries. It is, surely, less foolish and less criminal to permit inaction than compel it; to comply with doubtful opinions of happiness, than condemn to certain and apparent misery; to indulge the extravagancies of erroneous piety, than to multiply and enforce temptations to wickedness.

The misery of gaols is not half their evil, they are filled with every corruption which poverty and wickedness can generate between them; with all the shameless and profligate enormities that can be produced by the impudence of ignominy, the rage of want, and the malignity of despair. In a prison the awe of the publick eye is lost, and the power of the law is spent; there are few fears, there are no blushes. The lewd inflame the lewd, the audacious harden the audacious. Every one fortifies himself as he can against his own sensibility, endeavours to practise on others the arts which are practised on himself, and gains the kindness of his associates by similitude of manners.

Thus some sink amidst their misery, and others survive only to propagate villainy. It may be hoped that our Lawgivers will some time take away from us this power of starving and depraving one another: But, if there be any reason why this inveterate evil should not be removed in this age, which true policy has enlightened beyond any former time, let those, whose writings form the opinions and the modes of their contemporaries, endeavour to transfer the infamy of such imprisonment from the Debtor to the Creditor, till universal infamy shall pursue the wretch, whose wantonness of power or revenge of disappointment condemns another to torture and to ruin, till he shall be hunted through the world as an enemy to man, and find in riches no shelter from contempt.

Surely, he whose Debtor has perished in prison, though he may acquit himself of deliberate murder, must at least have his mind clouded with discontent, when he considers how much another has suffered from him; when he thinks on the wife bewailing her husband, or the children begging the bread which their father would have earned. If there are any made so obdurate by avarice or cruelty, as to revolve these consequences without dread or pity, I must leave them to be awakened by some other power, for I write only to humane Beings.

SHRUBS *of* PARNASSUS.

The CORKSCREW.

EACH vernal flow'r, that to the kissing sun
Expands its bosom in the garden's bed,
Or bends its neck to drink the noisy brook,
That blubbers on, till to a gradual calm
It smoothly glides and brawls itself asleep,
Let others pluck; around Amanda's brow
The wreath entwine, and hail her Queen of May.
Her name and beauty, let the love-struck youth,
Whose breast, till then, ne'er felt poetic fire,

In Magazine inroll, in ſtanzas ſoft
As is the nymph he wooes. Be mine the choice
To ſing the Corkſcrew, tho' in humble ſtrains.
Compar'd to this, all other Screws are mean.
It nam'd with this, the little glitt'ring ſpoon
From which tea loving maid the liquid ſips,
Conſin'd in vaſe of China's poliſh'd clay,
Is uſeleſs, trivial, and th' exotic box
For ſnuff deſign'd, much valu'd by the beau,
Nor by the belle leſs priz'd, here looks but faint,
Here loſes half its plenitude of charms.
Whether of ſilver, or of temper'd ſteel,
I graſp thee firm, to my tranſported touch
Alike thou'rt welcome; for by thy kind aid
The cork, that blazons in its coat of wax,
I pierce intrepid, and transfix the foe,
That rudely bars the paſſage to my joys,
Full in the centre. Then with nervous arm
Compleat the gripe, and give th' impriſon'd wine,
Champagne, or Port, its liberty of air.
Conſcious of thine ineſtimable uſe,
Thee doth each Toper at the feſtive board,
Friend of the vintage, carry in his pouch.
And thee the Cambridge Wits exulting hail,
And they who breath Oxonium's learned air,
As loud they quaff and ſing, and bid good night
To Homer's muſe, and Tully's moral page.
Corinna too muſt own thy ſervice, when
The nymph half-dreſs'd her early viſit pays
To flaſk of Nantz, or cordial Ratafia—
Yet would ſhe'd never ſeen the fatal Screw!
Vain wiſh! her buſy thought had then contriv'd
Some other inſtrument, or trident fork,
Or mangling bodkin, and had theſe too fail'd,
The maid had forc'd the cork into the ſtream.
But here can I forget the happy man,
Whoſe thought firſt gave this engine to the world!
Hail to thy memory! and tho' old Time
In his recording tablet for thy name
Has left a blank, yet ſhall the ſocial ſoul
With mirthful gratitude the gift admire
And drink one bumper in the donor's praiſe.

JEMMY COPYWELL.

Monday, JANUARY 1.

From the LONDON GAZETTE.

Florence, Dec. 9.

ON the 1ſt inſt. by the violent rains that we had for ſome days paſt, the Arno ſwelled ſo much, that it overflowed the lower part of the town, by which ſeveral houſes received conſiderable damage, and great quantities of proviſions were deſtroyed; but the damage has been ſtill greater in the country, where whole diſtricts have been laid under water. The Emperor, as an encouragement to people to ſettle in the ſuburbs of Leghorn, has cauſed an edict to be publiſhed, by which many privileges and exemptions are granted to thoſe who ſhould fix there.

Berlin, Dec. 16. This day arrived here Andrew Mitchell, Eſq; his Britannick Majeſty's Miniſter to this Court, on his way to Breſlau, for which place he will ſet out in a day or two, in order to attend the King our Sovereign, who is ſuppoſed to have come to that city yeſterday.

Hamburg, Dec. 22. Count Dohna arrived at Mirou, a town in the dutchy of Mecklembourg Strelitz, on the 17th inſt. with a very conſiderable body of men. He is to join General Manteuffel's corps, and purſue further operations againſt the Swedes, who are retreating in haſte towards Stralſund. The greateſt part of the Ruſſian army is retired back as far as Royal Pruſſia; the reſt will winter in the environs of Thorn, Marienwerder, and the Banks of the Viſtula. [*Thus far the Gazette.*]

Advices received by a Mail from Holland.

Dantzick, Dec. 13. As faſt as the Pruſſian troops come on this way, thoſe of Ruſſia retire with equal diligence from this neighbourhood towards the Dutchy of Lithuania. The latter have had permiſſion to unload their veſſels on the beach, from whence the proviſions contained in them may be carried by land to their camp. This might have been done more conveniently in the city; but the Regency had cogent reaſons for not granting them ſuch indulgence.

Dreſden, Dec. 11. The Pruſſians have put a ſtrong garriſon into Pirna; but they are totally eraſing the fortifications of Sonnenſtein, having found by experience that that place, in certain caſes, was more detrimental than uſeful.

The 8th inſt. a ſtrong detachment brought into this city 235 Auſtrian ſoldiers and ſeven officers, who were taken a few days before in a poſt they occupied between Chemnitz and Reichenbach.

Dreſden, Dec. 18. The King has draughted the beſt men from all the regiments in garriſon here, in order to complete the ſecond and third battalion of his guards, and they began their march for Sileſia the 16th, along with Werner's regiment of huſſars. The ſame day all the officers, belonging to the army in Sileſia, received orders to depart from hence, and join their reſpective corps as ſoon as poſſible.

Berlin, Dec. 14. M. Vereſſt, the new Miniſter from the States General to this court, is preparing to take the route of Breſlau, where he is to have his firſt audience of the King, who will arrive there about the 18th or 19th of this month.

Ratiſbon, Dec. 14. Within theſe few days the ſum of 120,000 florins, being part of the produce of the new Roman months, has been iſſued from the cheſt of operations, and ſent to the Prince of Deux-Ponts at Nuremberg.

Hamburg, Dec. 15. The Prince of Iſemburgh has concerted a ſcheme, whereby he reckons to oblige the French to quit the country of Hanau before the end of the year.

Hague, Dec. 26. By letters from Conſtantinople of the 17th paſt, we have advice, that Prince Conſtantine of Valachia has been brought up to that city, and committed priſoner to the Caſtle of the Seven Towers, upon complaint made to the Grand Seignor of his arbitrary and diſorderly conduct in his government.

AMERICA.

Charles-Town, Sept. 8. We hear from Port-Royal, that the works erecting for the defence of that place go on well; and that many Gentlemen there talk of forming themſelves into an artillery company, that thoſe works may be the more effectually defended, in caſe an enemy ſhould preſume to make an attempt in that quarter.

Philadelphia, Oct. 26. On Thurſday laſt Capt. William George arrived here in the ſloop Ruby, belonging to New London, homeward-bound from St. Martin's with ſalt, but taken on this coaſt by the Prince Edward frigate, of St. Malo's, Capt. Sibiere du Chatlieu, pierced for 36 guns, but mounted only 26, a very large ſhip, and ſails well, was built for a privateer, is a new veſſel, and an excellent ſailer, was taken into the King's ſervice to carry troops to Canada, and there diſcharged.

Capt. George was Mate of the Recovery, Capt. Stephenſon, bound to this port from Londonderry; which veſſel was taken by the above frigate the 19th of May laſt, and he carried to Quebec as Ranſomer, where he has been ever ſince.

This Gentleman informs us, that he left Quebec about 42 days ago in the ſaid frigate, in company with ſix ſhips of war of 64 guns each, two other frigates, a privateer, and five Merchantmen; the men of war deſigned home, but not half mann'd, and very ſickly; the merchantmen bound to the Cape. That the Prince Edward left the fleet ſoon for the Weſt Indies, but took a cruize on this coaſt in his way, when he made the following veſſels prizes: On the 4th of October he took Capt. Peter Dobſon, in the ſloop Nancy, of New York, for St. Thomas's in ballaſt, and burnt her the next day. The 7th Capt. Archibald Hamilton, in the ſnow Dutcheſs, of Douglaſs, for Maryland from Boſton, was taken, and burnt likewiſe. The 9th Capt. John Lee, in the brig Globe, of this port, deſigned for Montſerrat, was brought-to, and ſent to Canada. The 10th he took Capt. John Atkins, in the ſhip Betſey, from Liverpool and Newbury for Virginia, with ſome bale goods on board, and ordered her alſo for Canada. On the 14th Capt. Benjamin Mather, in the ſloop Ruby, from St. Martin's for New London, laden with ſalt, was taken likewiſe. And the ſame day he took Capt. Thomas Gordon Stall, in the ſloop Rebecca, from Cape-Francois for Rhode Iſland, her lading Rum and Molaſſes, and diſpatched her to Canada alſo.

All the priſoners were uſed in the moſt humane and genteel manner by the French Captain, and were ſent off in the ſloop, 49 in number, and had plenty of every thing to bring them up here.

Capt. George further adviſes, that they were in great want of proviſions in Canada laſt winter, each man having only an allowance of two ounces of bread for 24 hours: That betwixt two and three thouſand of the French Neutrals periſhed there, not being allowed what was common with the inhabitants: That there ſeemed to be no great plenty among them when he came away, tho' their crops were tolerably good, but much neglected for want of hands to get them in, all the men fit to bear arms, being ſent to the frontiers; and that what grain they had was collected into publick granaries, without any regard paid to the particular owners of it, and given out in proportion to every one, by perſons appointed for that purpoſe: That they had received no ſupply of ſoldiers from France this ſummer, except about 180 that were on board the frigate that took him, and another veſſel: That there were above three hundred in the two ſhips, but they were ſeized with a malignant Fever on the paſſage, which carried off the reſt; and thoſe that got in were landed in a very ſickly condition: That on receiving the news of the reduction of Cape Breton, they were much diſpirited; and imagine, that if the war continues another year, they ſhall loſe their whole country; on which account many of them were diſpoſing of their effects, and preparing to go home as ſoon as poſſible: That he had not heard of the deſtruction of Frontenac, (great pains being taken to keep ſuch things from the priſoners) but believes, from the ſadneſs of their countenances, that they had notice thereof, and that they ſeemed to be prodigiouſly ſhocked with it: That he thinks there are about 300 Engliſh priſoners at Quebec, and that there may be about the ſame number at Montreal: And that he ſaw the worthy Col. Schuyler there, who was in good health; and, from his benovolent diſpoſition, proved a great bleſſing to many of his unhappy countrymen, whoſe wants were ſupplied by him.

The Captain likewiſe ſays, that while he was there, a ſhip belonging to London, Capt. Spender, and bound to Boſton, with about 15,000l. ſterling worth of dry goods on board, was brought in, which ſold for above 16,000 l. And that a ſnow from Waterford for Newfoundland was alſo ſent in; as was likewiſe a ſchooner from Boſton for Louiſbourg with ſtock.

The frigate had but about 100 hands when ſhe left Quebec, and not above 60 when the priſoners parted with her; ſo that ſhe would ſoon be obliged to leave the coaſt.

LONDON.

We hear that the King of Pruſſia, before he left Saxony, ſent a detachment of troops, with carpenters, &c. to rebuild the bridge at Naumburg with all poſſible ſpeed, that bridge having been burnt by the French when they entered Saxony.

By ſome private letters from Berlin there is advice, that his Pruſſian Majeſty had ordered ſeveral gratuities to his officers and ſoldiers, for their better encouragement to remain in action againſt his enemies during the winter, as alſo an augmentation of their pay, together with raiment ſuitable to the ſeaſon.

Sir John Ligonier has iſſued out orders to get ready all neceſſary cloathing for the Engliſh troops in Germany by the 10th of February next, in order to be ſent over to them.

Thomas Orby Hunter, Eſq; Commiſſary General to the combined army under Prince Ferdinand, will ſail for Holland in a few days, in one of his Majeſty's yachts. He will be eſcorted by a man of war, having with him a very large ſum of money for the uſe of that army.

We are informed that on Wedneſday laſt the Right Hon. Mr. Secretary Pitt received a letter from Mr. Dobbs, Governor of North Carolina, which begins with congratulating him on the ſucceſs of his Majeſty's arms in the reduction of Louiſbourg, Fort Frontinac, and Fort Du Queſne. He mentions no particulars of the taking of the laſt place, ſuppoſing Mr. Pitt to be already informed thereof by expreſs.

An Addreſs from the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, and Common Council of the ancient borough of Leiceſter, has been tranſmitted by Sir Charles Tynte, Bart. to the Right Hon. Mr. Secretary Pitt, one of his Majeſty's principal Secretaries of State, and by him preſented to his Majeſty; which his Majeſty was pleaſed to receive very graciouſly.

Some of the braſs cannon taken at Cherburg, and which were nailed up, are to be ſent ſhortly to Woolwich to be drilled, and rendered fit for ſervice: ſome of them are already brought out upon Tower Wharf to be tranſported thither for that purpoſe.

Letters from Genoa ſay, that twelve new Spaniſh frigates have juſt been launched in the port of Ferrol.

Letters from the Sound dated the 16th inſt. mention, that the froſt was ſet in ſo ſtrong, that the Engliſh ſhipping and the guard-ſhips were gone to ſhelter at Copenhagen.

Sittings appointed in London and Middleſex before the Right Hon. Sir John Willes, Knt. Lord Chief Juſtice of his Majeſty's Court of Common Pleas at Weſtminſter, in and after Hilary Term 1759.

Middleſex.		London.	
Friday,	Jan. 26.	Monday,	Jan. 29.
Wedneſday,	31.	Monday,	Feb. 5.
Wedneſday,	Feb. 7.	Thurſday,	8.
After Term.		After Term.	
Tueſday,	Feb. 13.	Wedneſday,	Feb. 14.

On Tueſday laſt his Grace the Archbiſhop of Canterbury gave an elegant entertainment to the Right Reverend the Biſhops, at which were preſent fifteen Prelates of this kingdom, and two of Ireland.

Two perſons of fortune are ſaid to be taken into cuſtody of his Majeſty's Meſſengers, upon an information given by Dr. Henſey, for lending money to the French King.

On Thurſday evening a young fellow genteely dreſſed, was taken up at Newington, for offering a forged draught on a tradeſman in the city, in payment for the ſum of nine pounds five ſhillings. He was ſecured in Bridewell for further examination.

Friday Richard Butler was committed to New-Priſon by Mr. Fielding, for privately ſtealing from the perſon of George Brooks 6s.

Tueſday, JANUARY 2.

IRELAND.

Dublin, Dec. 23.

THE remarkable meteor mentioned from ſo many diſtant parts, was ſeen at Iſland Bridge, near Dublin, on Sunday the 26th ult. at 15 minutes paſt eight at night, almoſt at due eaſt; it ſeemed like a pale moon, moved from South to North with a prodigious velocity, and diſperſed or broke into many ſtarry ſparkles; its duration was not above three ſeconds.

Edward Blakeney, Eſq; is appointed his Majeſty's Conſul at Nice, in the room of Lewis Cabanis, Eſq;

Corke, Dec. 18. The following is part of a letter from Boſton, to a Gentlemen in this city, brought by a veſſel arrived from thence at Kinſale laſt Thurſday.

"*Boſton, Sept.* 23, 1758. The news here is, that Brigadier Forbes has taken Fort du Queſne, which you may depend on to be beyond all doubt."

COUNTRY NEWS.

York, Dec. 26. On the 16th inſt. about eight at night, as Mr. John Moor, Brazier, of Gilling, was going from Richmond-market, he was attacked upon the road near Aſke, the late Sir Conyers D'Arcy's ſeat, by perſons unknown, and moſt barbarouſly murdered, having no leſs than five mortal wounds upon him, one with ſhot, the reſt with a ſtake or bludgeon, as ſuppoſed. He was found by four of his neighbours returning from Richmond market, juſt expired; whoſe near approach it is ſuppoſed hindered the bloody villains from robbing him, he having in his pocket four guineas and his watch. No traces of the murderers can as yet be made out. Mr. Moor has left an inconſolable widow, big with child.

Liverpool, Dec. 29. On Saturday night laſt Mr. Thomas Ratcliffe, Pipemaker in Strand-ſtreet, was attacked at the end of Cooke-ſtreet, by two Spaniſh ſailors; one of them joſtled, the other ſtabbed him in the ſide with a knife, and then made off to his lodgings, where he changed his hat, threw his waiſtcoat into the fire, and put another on of a different colour, with an intent to ſcreen himſelf from being diſcovered. He was ſent yeſterday to Lancaſter. We hear this villain has frequently made a practice of aſſaulting perſons in the night. There is but little hopes of Mr. Ratcliffe's recovery.

Briſtol, Dec. 30. Laſt week the Wife of Mr. Chapman, who keeps the Roebuck on Lawrence-hill, was brought to bed of her 17th ſon. She has had 17 boys out of 18 children, and is now about 50 years of age.

PORT-NEWS.

Plymouth, Dec. 26. It is poſitively ſaid that the following ſhips are fitting out for North America with all poſſible ſpeed, viz. Warſpite of 74 guns, Shrewſbury 74, Medway 60, Sterling Caſtle 60, Alcide 60, and Achilles 60. Theſe are to be joined by ſeveral others, and the whole fleet commanded by Admiral Boſcawen.

The Dutch ſhip mentioned ſome time ſince to have been ſent into this port by his Majeſty's ſhips Windſor, Iſis, and Venus, hath on board 1260 barrels of gunpowder, 8900 round ſhot, and 3300 double headed. This is her third voyage, having delivered two of the like cargoes in France this year, and cleared out for St. Sebaſtian's at the ſame time.

Haſtings in Suſſex, Dec. 30. About four this afternoon a ſmall privateer of this place was taken, about a league off this town, by a French frigate of between 20 and 30 guns. It is feared ſhe will do a great deal of miſchief, as there is nothing in this part of the channel to oppoſe her.

LONDON.

Some letters from Warſaw mention, that it was expected the King of Poland would very ſpeedily ſet out for Vienna, things going ſo contrary to his wiſhes in Poland.

The damages which the territories of Hanover ſuſtained from the French troops, from the month of July 1757, to the month of March 1758, as laid before the Diet of the Empire, by the Miniſter of the King of Great Britain as Elector of Hanover, amount to 4,934,325 rixdollars.

Col. Pearſon, Col. Lambert, Col. Dickeins, Capt. Mathews, Capt. Bridgman, Capt. Pownall, and Capt. Bromhead, of Lord Effingham's regiment, had the honour of kiſſing his Majeſty's and the reſt of the Royal Family's hands, on their return from France, being priſoners taken at St. Cas the 11th of September.

The Iſland of Dominica, ſituated between Martinico and Guardaloupe, is ſaid to be the place of rendezvous for Commodore Hughes's fleet, which ſailed from Spithead on the 12th of November, being very convenient for executing an attempt againſt either of thoſe iſlands, being from them only a few hours ſail. The plan of an execution againſt ſome of theſe iſlands is ſaid to have been formed by Capt. Shuldham, who was taken in his Majeſty's ſhip the Warwick by a ſquadron of French men of war, and carried to Martinico. While he was priſoner at that place, having the liberty of the town of St. Peter upon his parole, he made many uſeful obſervations on the ſtrength of the forts, and the moſt proper method of attacking them with ſucceſs.—On his being exchanged, he communicated theſe remarks to Commodore Moore, Commander of the Leeward Iſland ſquadron, who ſent him home with proper recommendations to the perſons in power.—Such are ſaid to have been the reaſons for the large armament being ſent out; for laying an embargo on ſhips from Ireland, with proviſions; and on ſhips from North America, bound to the Weſt-Indies.—To theſe may be added the account brought by ſhips lately arrived, of Commodore Moore's being left cruizing off Martinico with nine ſhips of war, to prevent any reinforcement of men or ſtores, going into that place.

Yeſterday there was the greateſt Court at St. James's that has been this winter, when the Ode for the New Year, by William Whitehead, Eſq; ſet by Dr. Boyce, &c. was performed before his Majeſty in an apartment adjoining to the Great Council Chamber.

The convoy from Leghorn arrived at Gibraltar the 9th of December, bound to London, and was there the 14th, when the Dragon and Ruby left that port.

By the Iriſh mail yeſterday, came advice, that the Diamond, Burnett, and the Scattergood, Marſham, from Jamaica, are arrived in Ireland; and the Adventure, Barwell, from Jamaica, is arrived at Dover: they are the laſt miſſing ſhips of the late Jamaica fleet, except the Dragon, Dixon, who, it is ſuppoſed, is arrived at Hambro'.

We hear from Liverpool, that laſt week the Alexander, Roſs, from Jamaica for Liverpool, laden with ſugars, cotton, pimento, rum, logwood, &c. (having got a Pilot on board) run aground on Barboe-Bank, near that place, and lay there till the next tide; as ſoon as ſhe lifted they hove her off and got her into a ſwath of ſix fathom water, where a ſecond Pilot boarded her from one of the outward-bound ſhips, and ordered them to heave up her anchor and get under way, but before they could get her to caſt, ſhe tailed on the bank, ſtove her counter in, and bulged; the people immediately quitted her and came up to the town, and it is feared ſhe is or will be entirely broken up, and little or nothing ſaved but what may happen to be thrown up by the tide on the main.

Wednesday, January 3.

Vienna, Dec. 13.

THE Duke of Braganza, who made the laſt campaign in M. Daun's army, is arrived in town to paſs the winter. One ſcarce hears or ſees any thing here but moſt vigorous preparations for the approaching campaign.

Paris, Dec. 17. The laſt letters from Spain inſinuate that the King's health is much altered for the worſe. His Catholick Majeſty was ſo well recovered, that he had left the caſtle of Villa Viciosa, to come and paſs the winter at Madrid, where he arrived on the 21ſt ult. at four in the afternoon. Several Grandees, Ambaſſadors, and Foreign Miniſters, went to meet him, and attended him into the town. It was remarked that the Earl of Briſtol, the Britiſh Ambaſſador, was not among them; but it afterwards appeared that he did not know of the King's return. The Spaniſh Merchants are drawing up a ſtate of the loſſes they have ſuffered by Engliſh privateers.

The news of the election of Prince Charles of Saxony, Brother of the Dauphineſs, to be Duke of Courland, gave great pleaſure to our Court. We flatter ourſelves, that that Dutchy will prove to us a nurſery of excellent Officers, men of fortune and of abilities. It can ſupply us with ſome thouſands; which will be of great ſervice to our foreign regiments, and facilitate the raiſing of new ones at a proper time.

Yeſterday the Medicine-lectures in the Univerſity were opened, with a ſpeech by M. Gevigland, proving the injuſtice and falſity of the general notion, that Phyſicians ſeldom have any religion.

LONDON.

They write from the Hague, that the States-General, after having examined the propoſition remitted to them by the Princeſs Governante, on the 18th of laſt month, came to a reſolution to thank that Princeſs for her zeal and indefatigable cares for the good of the country. That a copy of her Royal Highneſs's propoſition ſhould be ſent to all the members of the province of Holland, with intreaty to conform to the inſtances of that Princeſs, and the ſollicitations of the provinces of Gueldres, Utrecht, Overyſſel, and Groninguen, and to lay aſide their oppoſition to the augmentation ſo long propoſed, and ſo neceſſary in the preſent critical circumſtances of the Republick.

The journal of the compaign againſt the Swedes, publiſhed at Berlin by Authority, concludes with theſe words:

"Tho' the Swediſh force always was at leaſt four times greater than that ſent to oppoſe them, they did nothing but forage, raiſe contributions, pilfer, and pillage: We may with truth ſay, that except the burning of houſes, they ſurpaſſed all our enemies in this manner of making war, and that wherever they came, they behaved the worſt. As they know not what it is to form magazines, and take proper meaſures for being ſupplied with proviſions, they ſtript every place, in which they ſet foot, quite bare, and yet the ſoldiers wanted neceſſaries: And the poor peaſant was nevertheleſs forced to pay a contribution of four and twenty crowns for his farm. We could name a great number of villages, from which they not only carried away the produce of the earth, the cattle and horſes, which they afterwards ſold to Jews, but alſo by order of their ſuperiors, trampled down and deſtroyed the ſeed in the ground."

Glaſgow, December 25.

Copy of a letter from the Mate of an Eaſt-India ſhip to his Wife in Carſtyke, near Greenock.

My Dear,

"This is to acquaint you that I am yet living; and I do think there is not on earth a more remarkable inſtance of the great mercy and goodneſs of God, than has been ſhewn in my preſervation. I arrived in India the 15th of Auguſt, 1753, and agreed to go Mate along with Capt. Hugh Kennedy, an old Comrade of mine in Virginia. I will be particular in my firſt voyage, and I hope you will cauſe what follows to be put in the News-Papers, that all concerned may have a true and impartial account of the fate of their friends and relations.

"Our ſhip was about 900 tons burthen, manned with 100 Laſcars, or black Sailors, and navigated by a Captain, four Mates and a Gunner, Europeans. We took on board 500 Merchants and other Paſſengers, going to pay their yearly devotions at Mahomet's tomb at Mecca, and ſailed from Surat in India the 10th of April, 1754, with a cargo on board, valued at 200,000l. ſterling, for Moco and Jodda, in the Red Sea, with a good wind, and on the 18th, at noon, we found ourſelves in the latitude of 15th north, and 9 degrees of longitude, to the weſtward of Surat. At one, afternoon, (may God preſerve me from the like ſight for ever!) we obſerved a ſmoke coming up thro' the deck in the gailey or forecaſtle. We immediately got the fore hatches off to ſee where the fire was: but the flame having vent, burſt out with ſuch rage, that it burnt both the ſecond Mate's ſhirt, and trowſers, and mine, and having got hold of his main ſtayſail, in five minutes communicated itſelf to the rigging and all the ſails of the ſhip. Our boats were all on board but the long-boat, and our rigging being on fire, we could make no uſe of the tackles to hoiſt them out. The Laſcars all ran aft from the flames, and aſſiſtance we had none. I went down to the powder-room, which was be-aft, with the Gunner, to heave the powder overboard, and whilſt we were throwing it out, I obſerved the long-boat cut adrift by the ſailors, which was the only proſpect we had of life; on which account I went up to the deck, and told the Captain, that, as the fire was ſo violent, we had now but two choices, to burn or drown. He, with his uſual calmneſs, told me, he had ſeen me ſwim farther in Virginia than to the long-boat, and as it was death to ſtay on board, I might yet reach her, and ſave him and the reſt of the Europeans. I took a cutlaſs in my mouth, and directly jumped overboard; (at that time the fire had got the length of the quarter-deck, with ſuch violence that no body durſt go nigh it) I had ſo far to ſwim, that I was obliged to quit the cutlaſs, and ſwim for my life. At laſt I reached the long-boat, and going to uſe my authority, tho' I was beloved by the ſailors, they ſoon let me know it was at an end, and told me, Did I not ſee 3 or 400 people ſwimming towards the long-boat? That already ſhe was full; that they left their own fathers and brothers to periſh, and could I think they would return to take in five infidels, on whoſe account Mahomet had burnt the ſhip? And though they ſhould, would not every one ſtrive to get in his own relations, by which they would all periſh? I told them we had neither water nor proviſions of any kind on board, nor a compaſs to ſteer by; that we were 200 leagues from the neareſt land, part of the coaſt of Malabar; but my remonſtrance ſignified nothing; they were reſolved to purſue for it with oars, being 96 ſouls on board, of which eight were black Roman Catholicks. The ſhip blew up about eight at night, with a noiſe like thunder, and every ſoul on board periſhed. Hugh Kennedy, the Captain, was brother to a Gentleman cloſe by Air; John Short, Second Mate, was, ſome time ago, a Commander at Mirzapore; John Richardſon, the Third Mate, was a Yorkſhire man; William Campbell, the Fourth Mate, was brother's ſon to Doctor Campbell in Air, and brother to Doctor Campbell cloſe by Air; The Gunner was named Hamilton, a Scots Gentleman's ſon.

"We rowed 48 hours towards the coaſt of Malabar, and then gave over. I deſired them to take their turbands, being Moors, and ſtitch them with ſome rope-yarn, out of the long-boat's cable, for ſails, and laſh the oars together for maſts, which they did with all expedition, and being a ſide wind, and fair weather, we went always two or three knots; but from the want of ſleep, (conducting the boat by the Sun in the day, and the Stars by night) I envied the death of my ſhipmates, who were burnt or drowned. We were never hungry, but our thirſt was extreme: The 7th day our throats and tongues ſwelled ſo that we ſpoke by ſigns; on that day fourteen died, and almoſt the whole company became filly, and began to die laughing. I petitioned God earneſtly to continue my ſenſes to my end, which he was pleaſed to do, being the only perſon the 8th day that had them. On that day twenty more died, and on the 9th I ſpied land, which ſight overcame my ſenſes, and I fell into a ſwoon with thankfulneſs and joy. When I recovered I took the helm, and ſteered in for the land, and ran into a bay between two rocks about eleven o'clock in the morning, ten leagues to the ſouthward of Goa, a Portugueze ſettlement on the coaſt of Malabar. The natives were Gentoos or Pagans, who uſed us very civilly. They took all the black people out of the boat firſt, that were alive, and when I looked round, ten lay dead in the boat. Fifty got alive to ſhore, of which I was one; twenty died in two days more, and only thirty of us got to Bombay, having 550 miles to travel naked, in the heat of the Sun. I was taken care of in Bombay by the Engliſh government, who allowed me 50 rupees (which is 6l. 5s.) per month for my ſuſtenance, being juſt enough to live on there.

"I recovered in ſix months, and went Mate to another ſhip, to Africa and Ethiopia, and returned to Bombay without any accident. I went again in the ſame ſhip to the Streights of Molucca, where the Mallayans cut off the moſt part of our crew in the night; however the Captain and I were ſaved, and with the remainder of the black ſailors, we got the ſhip home to Bombay.

"I went the next voyage with the ſame Captain to Bengal, and arrived there juſt as the Moors came to beſiege it. We fought the ſhip till we could fight no longer, the Captain being killed, myſelf and the reſt of the Mates wounded in many places. We had on board 26 European Ladies, that fled to our ſhip for protection when the town was taken by the Moors. You have heard, I ſuppoſe, of the cruel maſſacre of thoſe that remained in the town. I cut my cable and run down the river, having three Moorith forts to paſs. The Ladies were in the hold in ſafety, but the moſt of my Laſcars, or black Sailors, were killed, and I received a ſhot, which took me in the head and ſhattered my ſkull; but blood and bone, I tied up all together, having a Bengal Doctor on board, one Gray, a Scotſman; and having paſſed all the forts to the mouth of the river, my wounds threw me into a fever, and then I made this will and power which I here incloſe you. When I recovered I returned to Bombay, and continued in the command of the ſhip, and have made ſeveral ſucceſsful voyages ſince; but finding my health declining, I propoſe to return home in the ſummer, 1755, tho' I need never want a Command in India, thro' the intereſt of the Bengal Ladies, whoſe lives I ſaved. JOHN IVER."

Admiral Norris is going out with a ſquadron of men of war, but upon what ſtation it is not known.

We hear 2000 French priſoners have been lately ſent home, in order to the ſending back the ſame number of Engliſh to their native country.

There are three additional tranſports taken into the Government's pay, to be employed as Cartel ſhips for the exchange of priſoners.

Fifty thouſand pounds is put on board the Jaſon, at Portſmouth, for payment of the ſhipping at Plymouth.

The Joſeph, from Briſtol and Cork, for Malaga, is taken by a French privateer.

The Anne Galley, from Briſtol and Whitehaven, for Africa, was taken on the coaſt by the Count de Florentine man of war, in June laſt, and deſtroyed.

The Three Brothers, Baker, from N. Carolina for Jamaica, is retaken by the Dreadnought and Aſſiſtance men of war, and ſent into Jamaica.

The Goſport man of war, which is arrived at Plymouth, brings advice, that a French 74 gun ſhip was loſt off Cape Spartell; and that two other French ſhips had loſt their maſts.

Extract of a letter from a Gentleman at Colcheſter, dated Dec. 31.

"On Friday evening between ſeven and eight o'clock, a few miles from this town, as I was riding gently home, on a ſudden I was ſurrounded with a very glaring light, which at firſt I imagined might be a flaſh of lightning: But on its continuing ſome ſeconds of time, I quickly turned myſelf round, and ſaw a great ball of fire (apparently about the bigneſs of a common foot-ball) deſcending from the heavens. Its direction was north eaſt, its motion much like what is vulgarly called the ſhooting of a ſtar. It vaniſhed in the ſame manner as a ſquib that makes no report. There were ſeveral people cloſe by me, who were greatly terrified at this unuſual phænomenon. And the ſame account was related to me the ſame evening by a perſon who was about ſix miles diſtant another way."

Sunday evening, about ſeven o'clock, a woman about ſixty years of age, ſuppoſed to be out of her mind, threw herſelf out of a two-pair of ſtairs window in Maiden-lane, Covent-garden; by which her thigh was broken, and ſhe was otherwiſe very much bruiſed.

Thursday, January 4.

Advices by a Mail from Holland.

Dantzick, Dec. 10.

THE Ruſſian Army is repartitioned in the following manner: The firſt diviſion is poſted in the villages and boroughs along the Viſtula from Elbingen to Marienwerder. The ſecond diviſion extends from the laſt mentioned place to Graudentz; and the third occupies all the poſts between Thorn and Culm. The brigade under General Panin is marched by Thorn to Wiehlau in the kingdom of Pruſſia, there to take up its winter-quarters. About 2000 men remain at Thorn, with General Brown, and four other Generals. General Fermor has ſtill his quarters at Marienwerder.

Vienna, Dec. 13. At a Council held on the 6th, at which the Empreſs-Queen aſſiſted, a reſolution was taken to aboliſh the poll-tax, which not only met with great difficulties in the execution, but excited much murmuring among the people. A tax will be laid on all real and perſonal eſtates, which is quite a different thing from the poll-tax; and a free gift will be required from the Merchants, in proportion to each man's abilities. It has alſo been propoſed, not to fill up the eccleſiaſtical benefices that ſhall become vacant, and to apply the revenues thereof to defray the expences of the war.

Count Daun arrived here the 7th in the evening, and next day appeared at Court in a very rich uniform, embroidered with the order of Thereſa, adorned with large brilliants, which was ſent him the night before by the Empreſs-Queen. It is confirmed, that this great Captain ſolicits leave to reſign, unleſs he ſhall be entruſted with diſcretionary powers, and have no council of war to attend him.

We depend much upon the aſſurances given by General Nadaſti, that all the regiments of Croats, and other Hungarian troops, ſhall be compleat before the opening of the campaign. A new board has been erected in Auſtria, called Lantafel, whoſe buſineſs is to attend to the welfare of the Province in general, and that of the publick revenues in particular.

Prague, Dec. 16. The troops of Marſhal Daun's army, which form a chain between the frontiers of this kingdom and Saxony, are poſted in ſuch manner, that in caſe of need, they can aſſemble in a body in the ſpace of twice twenty-four hours; but indeed, there is little proſpect of their being troubled, the great fall of ſnow having rendered all the roads impaſſable.

Magdeburg, Dec. 19. Letters from Berlin are full of the vigorous preparations for the enſuing campaign, effectually to oppoſe any freſh enterpriſes which his Pruſſian Majeſty's enemies may form againſt his States. Not fewer than 36000 Recruits are raiſing to complete and augment the ſeveral regiments. Funds for raiſing money to continue the war, without having recourſe to new taxes, are already ſettled; indeed, inſtead of laying freſh burdens on the people, his Pruſſian Majeſty, whoſe principal care is to eaſe them, has found ſufficient reſources for relieving the more preſſing neceſſities of the many unfortunate people that have been the innocent victims of the enemy's fury, by granting them extraordinary privileges, and remitting conſiderable ſums, amounting to ſome thouſand crowns. All the Provinces, and particularly Pomerania, the New Marche, and the city of Cuſtrin, have, on this occaſion, felt the effects of his Majeſty's generoſity, who has, moreover, granted them the materials neceſſary for rebuilding the houſes and whole villages, which the enemy had reduced to aſhes.

Hamburgh, Dec. 22. They write from Erfurth, that on the 17th a Pruſſian Lieutenant, with 30 huſſars, went to the ſeat of Field Marſhal Count Seckendorff-Meuſchwitz, and civilly ſummoned that Lord to follow him, by virtue of an order from the King, which he produced. It is ſaid he was conducted to Magdebourg.

The head quarters of the Swediſh army was on the 16th at Gripſwalde, but the greateſt part of their heavy baggage, artillery, and ſtores, have been ſent to Stralſund, and the Iſle of Rugen.

Hanover, Dec. 22. An edict is publiſhed in this place, forbidding, under very ſevere penalties, the impreſſing of men to ſerve in our army. This hath brought the young fellows abroad, who before lurked in houſes, and given the recruiting Officers of the huſſars an opportunity to perſuade many to enliſt voluntarily.

Frankfort, Dec. 22. The French are preparing 10,000 paliſades to plant round Gieſſen, where there is a garriſon of 4 or 5000 men, and another of 500 in Marbourg. All our neighbourhood ſwarms with French troops, but hitherto we have had none of them quartered upon us.

There is much talk of the march of a body of Pruſſians; but it is thought they will not advance this length, as the French army is diſtributed in ſuch a manner that it can aſſemble in three or four days at fartheſt; and the army of the Circles can do the ſame in the ſame ſpace of time.

Coblentz, Dec. 20. We hitherto flattered ourſelves, that we ſhould not be obliged to receive a garriſon of foreign troops into our city; but our hopes on this head have been entirely diſappointed, orders having been given to prepare lodgings for five or ſix battalions of French troops, which are hourly expected here to paſs the winter.

Paris, Dec. 22. Foul weather and contrary winds have detained M. de Bompart's ſquadron, which was to have been a great way out at ſea by this time.

Paris, Dec. 23. It has been reported for ſome days, that overtures of Peace have been made to our Court, by the Kings of Great Britain and Pruſſia; and that preliminaries are drawing up.

Breſt, Dec. 16. There is great talk of a formidable armament at this place, againſt next ſpring. Some ſhips are fitting out at Port l'Orient for the India Company, which will it is ſaid, put to ſea before the end of this month.

LONDON.

A particular account of the engagement which happened to the Leeward of Montſerrat the 3d of November, between his Majeſty's ſhip Buckingham *of 65 guns,* Richard Tyrrell, *Eſq; Commander, and three French men of war, which were convoying a fleet of merchantmen from St. Euſtatia to Martinico.*

"ON the 2d inſt. at eight in the evening, his Majeſty's ſhip Buckingham failed from St. John's Road in Antigua, and at five next morning (Montſerrat then bearing W. half S. diſtant 7 miles) chaced and brought to, two ſail, which proved to be Engliſh privateers; and at nine chaced another ſail, which proved to be the ſloop Weaſle, Capt. Bowles. At twelve o'clock, Montſerrat bearing E. N. E. diſtant 5 leagues, Captain Tyrrell ſaw three ſail bearing W. and by S. ſtanding to the Southward; on which he crouded all ſail, and at one perceived a fleet of 19 ſail; he then made the Weaſle's ſignal to chace. At two o'clock Capt. Tyrrell diſcovered a French ſhip of 74 guns (the Floriſſant) one of 38, and another of 20; he then cleared ſhip, and got every thing ready to engage. The reſt of the fleet were, a ſmall frigate, an armed ſhip, and 14 ſail of ſloops; all which were to windward of the men of war. At half paſt two the French men of war formed a line a-head, the Floriſſant hoiſting a red flag at the mizen-topmaſt-head, and a white jack at her enſign ſtaff.

"At three the Weazle was a-head of the Buckingham, and fired two ſhot, which the Floriſſant and one of the frigates returned. On this Capt. Tyrrell made the Weazle's ſignal to come in, and ordered her to keep cloſe under the Buckingham's ſtern. At half paſt three the Floriſſant fired her ſtern-chace at the Buckingham, which Capt. Tyrrell did not return till he got nearer, and then repaid it briſkly.

"At four, the largeſt frigate bore away under the Buckingham's lee, fired her broadſide, and received one from the Buckingham; on which ſhe thought fit immediately to ſheer off. Capt. Tyrrell ſtill continued to fire his bow chace on the Floriſſant, and ſhe her ſtern chace on the Buckingham, who alſo received ſeveral fires from the 28 gun frigate. But Capt. Tyrrell, finding he could not by this means bring the enemy to a general engagement, ordered the Buckingham a-yaw, which brought her broadſide to bear on the Floriſſant, and immediately poured it in, great guns and ſmall arms. This, the enemy briſkly returned, and at the ſame time the 38 gun frigate hauled her round, came under the Buckingham's ſtern, and raked her. Several broadſides were exchanged in this manner; till, at half an hour paſt five, coming to piſtol-ſhot diſtance, the fire grew extremely hot on both ſides. The Buckingham now fired full broadſides of great guns, and ſmall arms, from the tops, poop, and gang-boards, which in a little time ſilenced the Floriſſant; and her white jack, at the enſign-ſtaff, was then obſerved to be ſtruck, and never afterwards hoiſted; her red flag was alſo lowered from the mizen top-maſt head as far as the mizen peak.

"At half an hour paſt ſix, the Floriſſant fired only two guns, but Capt. Tyrrell ſtill kept up his fire of great guns and ſmall arms.

"At a quarter before ſeven, the two ſhips fell aboard; the Floriſſant's jib-boom run in between the Buckingham's main and mizen-

masts, and her fore yard was likewise foul of the Buckingham's main yard: They remained some little time in that position; and it was observed from the Buckingham's tops, and by Capt. Prey, with the marines on the poop and gangways, that there was not a man on the enemy's poop or quarter-deck to fire at; and the few that remained in the tops were in such confusion, that they threw several hand-grenades without lighting the fuzee.

"At 7 o'clock Capt. Tyrrell got every thing ready for boarding, which the enemy prevented by sheering off just at the time it was to have been put in execution. On this the men chearfully run back to the great guns, which were loaded with round and grape shot, and round and double headed shot; and at 12 yards distance the whole broadside was poured into the enemy, with vollies of small arms from the tops, poop, and gun-boards, in such a manner, that not a shot could miss. The enemy all this time being driven from their quarters, and the ship still remaining in the position, Capt. Tyrrell had leisure to repeat the fire; but a breeze then springing up, it sheered round the Florissant, and brought her stern to the Buckingham. The enemy took this opportunity of hoisting all the sail they could croud, and made off, being favoured by the darkness of the night, and the great damage the Buckingham had received in her rigging; her tiller rope being shot away, all her braces and bowlings gone, her sails to pieces and a-back, her masts, yards, and standing rigging much damaged, and the ship under no command. During all the engagement the 38 gun frigate raked the Buckingham whenever she could. Capt. Tyrrell had the misfortune to lose three fingers from his right-hand, and received several contusions in his head, arms and body. We had also the great misfortune to lose Lieutenant Marshal, a gallant and brave officer. Lieutenant Harris of the marines, and Mr. Winterborne the Master, were both dangerously wounded. In all, the Buckingham had 7 men killed and 46 wounded, two of which are since dead.

"We shall add no encomiums on the behaviour of the officers or men belonging to the Buckingham: what that must have been, the facts contained in the foregoing narrative sufficiently declare. Capt. Tyrrell laboured under this disadvantage, that from his former conduct great things were expected from him, whenever he came to be opposed in action: however, on this occasion, he has far surpassed our most sanguine expectations, heightened as they were. Nor could the bravery of our enemies be denied, had they not ungenerously given in to a measure fit hardly to be named of the worst of pirates, and common sea robbers. Their great guns were stuffed with star langrage, pieces of cast metal, and other such mortifying rubbage; and their small arms were loaded with chewed bullets; samples of which are now on board the Buckingham, and ready to be produced. Their langrage was a square bar of iron, four inches long, notched on the angles to make the wound less curable. This is a practice mean and sordid in the highest degree, as it is of no advantage in the action, but only serves to add future languishing torments to the wounds received in battle, and exhibits an instance of French politeness, French honour."

We hear the Men of War are got into the Granadoes, and that the Florissant is an entire wreck, her whole side being one port. The French confess they have lost 140 men, but it is imagined they lost upwards of 300.

They write from Barbadoes that the Fly sloop of war, sent express from Plymouth to Commodore Moore, is arrived there.

The Jason, Robertson, from Jamaica, is got into Camel-town.

The John and Mary Holloway, from Seville for London, is put into Corke in a shattered condition.

On Wednesday last Sir William Peere Williams was chosen Member of Parliament for New Shoreham in Sussex, in the room of —— Stratton, Esq; deceased.

Last Friday Thomas Sewell, Esq; was elected Member of Parliament for the Borough of Harwich in the county of Essex.

Dr. JAMES's *POWDER*,

For *FEVERS*, and other *inflammatory disorders*.

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WILL remove (as has been experienced in many thousand cases) any continual acute Fever in a few hours, tho' attended with convulsions, light-headedness, and the worst symptoms; but if taken in the beginning of a fever, one dose is generally sufficient to perform a cure *.

It is likewise a most effectual remedy for all internal inflammations, pleurisies, quinsies, acute rheumatisms, and the lowness of spirits, and uneasinesses proceeding from slow and latent fevers, which are generally mistaken for vapours and hysterics. It is extremely effectual in the *Small Pox*, *Measles*, and *St. Anthony's Fire*; and a single dose remarkably stops the progress of a cold, and certainly prevents the ill consequences arising from that very common disorder, the source of almost all distempers.

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* See a dissertation on Fevers, and other inflammatory distempers sold at the places above mentioned Price 6d.

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Friday, JANUARY 5.

LONDON.

PRINCE Ferdinand of Brunswick has obliged the Bishoprick of Hildesheim to furnish the garrison of Munster with a certain quantity of provisions every week.

It is reported that a treaty of marriage is on foot between an English Gentleman of great family and character at the Hague, and Miss Euphroa Carsteens, with a fortune of 300,000 l. one of the coheiresses to the Merchant of that name, who lately died in London.

On the 21st ult. sailed from the port of Embden, on a cruize against the Swedes, a Privateer under Prussian colours, Waake commander, carrying 10 guns, besides swivels, and 130 men.

The following vessels are taken and carried into Guardaloupe; the Carolina, Thompson, from Piscataque to Antigua; Bedford, Amonet, from Virginia to Barbadoes; a Snow, Mainbury, from Piscataque to Antigua; a Sloop, Bartram, from Newhaven to ditto; a Sloop, Bosden, from New York to ditto; Mary Anne, Mitchell, from Philadelphia to Barbadoes; and a Schooner, Keland, from Carolina to St. Kitt's.

The Henrietta, Cole, from Barbadoes to Maryland, is retaken by the Woolwich man of war and carried into St. Kitt's.

The Lesley, Onslow, with 323 slaves, and Salisbury, Sacheverill, with 179, both from Old Calabar, are taken and carried into Guardaloupe.

The Prince of Wales privateer of Antigua, is taken by four privateers after three hours engagement.

Yesterday morning at four o'clock, the Lewenhopt, Swanhanberg, in ballast, run on shore on the South part of the Goodwin sands, and is entirely lost. The Captain and all the people are saved, and brought on shore at Deal.

The Nisbet, Capt. Whylie, of Glasgow, laden with upwards of 400 hogsheads of tobacco, was ready to sail with the Brothers, but was blown up two or three days before the Brothers sailed, together with five of her men, at North Potomac.

Yesterday, at seven o'clock in the evening, a dreadful fire happened in the Narrow street, Ratcliff. It it said to have begun in an empty house, by Noah's Ark-ally, and destroyed several houses adjoining. The fire took hold of Mr. Hearl's Deal-yard, and burnt with great violence; but with the assistance of the water from the great reservoir at Mile-End, belonging to the Proprietors of West Ham Waterworks, and several good engines, its progress was stopped, or in all probability, most of Queen-street would have been destroyed.

PREFERMENTS.

The Earl of Lincoln, High Steward of the City and Liberty of Westminster, in the room of the late Earl of Arran.

The Rev. Mr. John Francis, to the vicarage of Lakenham in Norfolk.

The Rev. Mr. George Nelson, A. B. to the vicarage of Monkton Wallop, Leicestershire.

On Friday last Mr. Lampe was chosen Organist of Barking church, Tower-hill, in the room of his grandfather deceased.

MARRIAGES.

24. Mr. Thomas Hudd, Haberdasher, in Whitechapel, to Miss Stiles, of Queen street, Cheapside.

26. Mr. Richard Hill, Coal-Merchant, in James-street, Bedford-Row, to Mrs. Stephens, daughter to John Prosser, Esq; Brewer, in Ratcliff-Highway.

27. Mr. Abraham Pitches, of Thames-street, Merchant, to Miss Jane Hassel, of Nottingham.

DEATHS.

Humphry Brent, Esq; Barrister at Law, a Bencher of the Middle Temple, and one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for Somersetshire.

Thomas Cooper, Eſq; Regiſter of his Majeſty's Court of Chancery, in Ireland.

The Rev. Dr. Sneyd, many years Rector of Civil Henningham in Eſſex.

Jane, Wife of the Rev. Mr. Hill, Vicar of Monk-Sherburne, in Hampſhire.

Mrs. Fowler, ſiſter to the late Sir Richard Fowler, Bart. and Great Aunt to the preſent Sir William Fowler, Bart.

Mrs. Hughes, wife of Mr. Iſaac Hughes, an Italian Merchant, in Crutched-Friars.

Mrs. Buckle, wife of —— Buckle, Eſq; and mother of the above Mrs. Hughes.

19. James Crie, Eſq; at Perth, in Scotland, late Provoſt there.

23. John Oxenford, Eſq; Aſſiſtant to the Inſpector General of the Exports and Imports.

Mr. Gabriel Wright. Among other legacies, he has left to Chriſt's Hoſpital 300l. to the London Work-houſe, 200l. and the bulk of his fortune to his brother, Mr. Edw. Wright of Cannon-ſtreet.

25. Michael Thornton, Eſq; formerly a Ruſſia Merchant, and many years in the Commiſſion of the Peace for the county of Surry.

John Hay, Eſq; of Lawfield.

Mrs. Jean Hay, daughter of the late Lord William Hay, of Newhall, and ſpouſe to Commiſſary Murray.

26. Mr. Rickly, a Jeweller, in Whitechapel.

Walter Hooper, Eſq; of Leed's Abbey, Kent.

Dec. 27. The Rev. Mr. Thomas Tooley, Rector of Kelmarſh in Northamptonſhire.

27. Mrs. Creſpion, aged 96, at her houſe in Dean's Yard, Weſtminſter.

Mr. Lately, formerly a Merchant of this city.

28. —— Hatton, Eſq; who was ſome years ago in the direction of the South-Sea Company.

Samuel Tuffnell, Eſq; in Albemarle-ſtreet. By his death a large eſtate comes to John Jolliffe Tuffnell, Eſq; Member of Parliament for Beverly in Yorkſhire, his eldeſt ſon.

Mr. Howell, Attorney, upon Tower-hill.

Mr. Lilly, at Peckham, formerly an Apothecary in Cheapſide.

Mrs. Macklin, many years belonging to the Theatre Royal in Drury-lane.

28. Mr. James Gordon, a Silverſmith in the Borough, in a fit of coughing.

30. Hon. Miſs Sophia Neville, in Hill-ſtreet, Berkeley-ſquare, ſiſter to the Right Hon. Lord Abergavenny, firſt Baron of England, and youngeſt daughter of the late Dowager Lady Abergavenny, who died in October laſt.

31. Mr. Sole, Haberdaſher, in the Borough.

John Hope, Eſq; Brewer and Partner with Mr. Stubbs, who died about three weeks ago.

Jan. 2. Sir John Buckworth, Bart. of South Audley-ſtreet. He repreſented the town of Weobly in two Parliaments.

BANKRUPTS.

William White, of New Windſor in Berkſhire, Vintner and Innholder.

Richard Barlow, late of Stand-lane, Preſtwick, in Lancaſhire, Clothier.

Chriſtopher Harriſon, of Wincomeley, in Sculcoates, Yorkſhire, Merchant and Oilman.

Abraham Southgate, late of Coddenham in Suffolk, Innholder.

Extempore on the amazing King of PRUSSIA.

SIX ſieges rais'd in fourteen days,
By twice his force ſurrounded;
Their Chiefs diſmay'd, with fixt amaze,
At his bare name confounded.

Such Pow'rs (ſo foil'd) ſo ſtrong combin'd,
Say ye Adepts in antient ſtory,
If all your Priſtine Heroes join'd,
Had half the Merit, half the Glory.

CAIUS PUBLICUS.

To the PRINTER.

SIR,

INSTEAD of a general Peace, which about a month ago ſome people imagined might take place before next ſpring, there is room to expect, from preſent appearances, that the War will ſpread farther, and be proſecuted with the utmoſt vigour, and, probably, with more animoſity than ever.

The King of Pruſſia's late declaration concerning Saxony, may be conſidered as an earneſt of what his other enemies have to expect from him, if he continues victorious. When that Monarch entered Saxony in 1756, he declared that he invaded it only for his own ſecurity, on the principles of ſelf-defence, and would reſtore it to his Polish Majeſty at the concluſion of a Peace. As to the houſe of Auſtria, his Pruſſian Majeſty at the ſame time declared, that he had no right nor pretenſions to any part of the Empreſs-Queen's poſſeſſions, and that he took up arms againſt her and the King of Poland, only to prevent the execution of their deſigns againſt him. What theſe deſigns were, he informed all Europe by authentic papers, againſt which his enemies had nothing to offer but haughty and evaſive anſwers.

Since the year 1756 the King of Pruſſia has offered Peace twice or thrice to the Court of Vienna, particularly after the battle of Prague; but nothing could then be concluded, becauſe the Houſe of Auſtria inſiſted upon ſatisfaction for the damage done to her and Saxony.

The Auſtrians, Ruſſians, French and Swedes, having afterwards attacked the Pruſſian dominions on every ſide, under the ſpecious pretext of delivering Saxony, which, they ſaid, was unjuſtly ſeized, contrary to the cuſtoms, laws, and conſtitutions of the Empire; and theſe Powers having been all baffled in their ſeveral attempts, in the years 1757 and 58, to recover the ſaid Electorate; his Pruſſian Majeſty may very well look upon it as a conquered country, and hold it as ſuch as long as he pleaſes, or while he can; eſpecially as the Ruſſians hold his kingdom of Pruſſia, and the French keep poſſeſſion of his territories on the ſide of the Lower Rhine and the Netherlands. Matters now ſeem to be come to this paſs, that every one of the belligerant parties muſt or will keep whatever he can conquer.

The bold and ſenſible ſtrain in which the regency of Hanover have anſwered the decrees iſſued by the Emperor and the Aulic Council againſt our Sovereign in his electoral capacity, may be taken as another preſage that we ſhall have no Peace this year: and as the King of Denmark has paid no regard to the Imperial Mandate that enjoined him to take the Dutchy of Mecklenburgh under his protection, we may preſume the Daniſh Court either intends to have no hand in theſe broils, or will at laſt ſide with Great Britain and Pruſſia.

Turning our eyes to the South, we find an event is daily expected there, which may be followed by diſturbances in Spain, Portugal, and Italy. Upon the deceaſe of the King of Spain, his Sicilian Majeſty ſucceeds to that monarchy; but the queſtion is, Will he relinquiſh Naples and Sicily to his brother Don Philip? Or, when he comes to the throne of Spain, will his Queen, who is a Princeſs of Saxony, have influence enough to make him do ſomething for her unfortunate, miſguided father? If the King of the Two Sicilies ſhould chuſe to ſettle his younger ſons in thoſe kingdoms upon his removing to Spain, or annex them to the Spaniſh monarchy; Don Philip will then be diſappointed of the reverſion ſtipulated for him by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, in caſe of his Catholick Majeſty's dying without iſſue, and muſt be content to remain Duke of Parma Placentia, and Guaſtalla; and the houſe of Auſtria will alſo be diſappointed, as theſe Dutchies are, by the ſaid treaty, to revert to her, on the preſent incumbent's ſucceeding to Naples and Sicily. In ſuch circumſtances the Empreſs Queen would not be able to claim, to any purpoſe, the execution of the treaty in queſtion: the preſent heir to the Crown of Spain would, probably, prefer the intereſt of his ſons to that of his brother, eſpecially as he never acceded to the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, and always expreſſed his diſapprobation of it. But, ſuppoſing a new King of Spain ſhould compromiſe this matter in an amicable manner with the Imperial Court, and be induced to ſupport the Empreſs Queen, another queſtion ariſes; what part would the Court of Turin act upon ſuch an occaſion? This I ſhall not preſume to reſolve: the King of Sardinia is juſtly accounted one of the wiſeſt Princes in Europe, and I doubt not but he will behave with his uſual prudence and penetration.

As to Portugal, ſome people pretend that the Queen would be glad to ſee the ſucceſſion ſecured to her brother Don Lewis of Spain, by marrying him to her eldeſt daughter; and as the King's brothers, and the Portugueſe in general, do not ſeem to reliſh ſuch a project, time only can diſcover whether it may not occaſion broils between thoſe two Crowns.

Upon the whole, I can ſee no proſpect of an approaching accommodation, but rather a probability of a more extenſive war, with this encouragement, however, that our Allies are not in circumſtances to require or deſire any ſacrifice to be made by Great Britain to ſave them from ruin: They have played their part glorioufly; they have earned hard the ſupport we have given them: And may Divine Providence continue to bleſs their bravery and activity, and conduct us to a Peace honourable and laſting for the Proteſtant Cauſe in general, and advantageous to Britiſh commerce in particular!

I am, &c. PROBUS.

To the PRINTER.

SIR,

MR. Dubourg, a Gentleman very fond of ſwimming, but ſubject to the cramp, was led to conſider of ſome contrivance to ſecure to himſelf the pleaſure of that exerciſe, without danger. For this purpoſe he has invented *a cork waiſtcoat*, compoſed of four pieces of cork, two for the breaſts, and two for the back, each pretty near in length and breadth to the quarters of a waiſtcoat without flaps; the whole is covered with a coarſe canvaſs, with two holes to put the arms thro'; there is a ſpace left between the two back pieces and the ſame betwixt each back and breaſt-piece, that they may fit the eaſier to the body. By this means the *waiſtcoat* is open only before, and may be faſtened on the wearer with ſtrings, or, if it ſhould be thought more ſecure, with buckles and leather ſtraps. This *waiſtcoat* does not weigh above 12 ounces, and may be made up for about five or ſix ſhillings expence. It is more ſimple in its make than the *bag*, not liable to the inconvenience of being blown up, as is abſolutely neceſſary to the uſe of the *bag*, nor, like that, ſubject to be torn. Mr. Dubourg has tried his waiſtcoat in the Thames, and found that it not only ſupported him on the water, but that even two men were not able to ſink him, tho' they made their utmoſt efforts for that purpoſe. If thoſe who uſe the ſea occaſionally, and eſpecially thoſe who are obliged to be almoſt conſtantly there, were to have theſe waiſtcoats, it would be next to impoſſible that they ſhould be drowned. This expedient conſidered as a pleaſurable article to thoſe who love ſwimming is not contemptible, but further and greater uſes may be derived from it. It would be of vaſt ſervice to

thoſe, who, for their health-ſake, bathe in the ſea, and even the moſt timorous and delicate young Lady might boldly venture, with one of theſe waiſtcoats, into a rough ſea. I need not ſay how uſeful they would be to the Navy, and how many lives they would ſave. And as we have now experienced, that the coaſts of France are not inacceſſible, ſurely theſe waiſtcoats might be of prodigious ſervice to our men in embarking and diſembarking; as it would be impoſſible, that even thoſe who cannot ſwim, ſhould be drowned before they could receive help from the boats. The expence of providing a ſufficient number of them for our Navy, can be no objection to a nation ſo wiſely and gratefully fond of a marine. Beſides, the charge cannot be great; if a ſingle one can be made for about five ſhillings, ſurely 30 or 40,000 may be made, upon an average, for much leſs a piece.

Again it is to be remembered, that the cork will laſt for a very long time; and the canvaſs, which would ſeldom want renewing, is the leaſt chargeable material. I therefore hope to live to ſee them introduced on board our whole Navy; and to hear that many lives are ſaved by them.

ODE *for the* NEW YEAR 1759.

Written by WILLIAM WHITEHEAD, Eſq; Poet-Laureat, and ſet by Dr. BOYCE, Maſter of his Majeſty's Band of Muſick.

Strophe.

YE Guardian Powers, to whoſe command,
At Nature's birth, th' Almighty mind
The delegated talk aſſign'd
To watch o'er Albion's favour'd land,
What time your hoſts with choral lay,
Emerging from its kindred deep,
Applauſive hail'd each verdant ſteep,
And white rock, glitt'ring to the newborn day!
Angelic bands, where'er ye rove,
Whilſt lock'd in ſleep creation lies,
Whether to genial dews above
You melt the congregated ſkies,
Or teach the torrent ſtreams below
To wake the verdure of the vale,
Or guide the varying winds that blow
To ſpeed the coming or the parting ſail,
Where'er ye bend your roving flight,
Whilſt now the radiant Lord of light
Winds to the North his gliding ſphere,
Avert each ill, each bliſs improve,
And teach the minutes as they move
To bleſs the op'ning Year.

Antiſtrophe.

Already Albion's lifted ſpear
And rolling thunders of the main,
Which Juſtice' ſacred laws maintain,
Have taught the haughty Gaul to fear.
On other earths, in other ſkies
Beyond Old Ocean's weſtern bound,
Tho' bleeds afreſh th' eternal wound,
Again Britannia's croſs triumphant flies.
To Britiſh George, the King of Iſles,
The tribes that rove th' Acaſſian ſnows,
Redeem'd from Gallia's poliſh'd wiles,
Shall breathe their voluntary vows:
Where Nature guards her laſt retreat,
And pleas'd Aſtræa lingers ſtill,
While Faith yet triumphs o'er Deceit,
And Virtue reigns, from ignorance of ill.
Yet, Angel-powers, tho' Gallia bend,
Tho' Fame, with all her wreaths, attend
On bleeding War's tremendous ſway,
The ſons of Leiſure ſtill complain,
And muſing Science ſighs in vain,
For Peace is ſtill away.

Epode.

Go, then, ye faithful guides
Of her returning ſteps, Angelic band,
Explore the ſacred ſeats where Peace reſides,
And waves her olive wand.
Bid her the waſtes of War repair.
—— O ſouthward ſeek the flying Fair,
For not on poor Germania's harraſs'd plain,
Nor where the Viſtula's proud current ſwells,
Nor on the borders of the frighted Seine,
Nor in the depths of Ruſſia's ſnows ſhe dwells.
Yet O, where'er, deſerting Freedom's Iſle,
She gilds the ſlave's deluſive toil,
Whether on Ebro's bank ſhe ſtrays,
Or ſighing traces Taio's winding ways,
Or ſoft Auſonia's ſhores her feet detain,
O bring the Wanderer back, with Glory in her train.

CHRISTENINGS *and* BURIALS.

Chriſtened		Buried	
Males	164	Males	222
Females	162	Females	221
In all	326	In all	443

Increaſed in the burials this week 154.

Diſeaſes and Caſualties.

Aged 60. Conſumption 97. Convulſions 109. Dropſy 11. Fever 45. Meaſles 11. Small-pox 27. Stilborn 7. Teeth 18. Lunatic 2. Mortification 4. Bruiſed 1. Drowned 2. Executed 2. Killed 1.

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The Quarter of a Peck Loaf, Houſhold, 4d.

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Bank Stock, 117. India Stock, Book ſhut. South-Sea Stock, Book ſhut. Ditto Old Annuities, 90 1-8th. Ditto New Annuities, Books ſhut. Three per Cent. Bank reduced, 89 3-4ths a 5-8ths. Ditto conſol. Books ſhut. Ditto 1726, Books ſhut. Ditto 1731, Books ſhut. Ditto India Annuities, 88 1-half. Three 1-half Bank Annuities, 1756, Books ſhut. Three per Cent. ditto 1757, Books ſhut. Three 1-half per Cent. 1758, Books ſhut. Bank Circulation, 1l. 7s. 6d. a 10s. India Bonds, 20s. Prem. Navy and Victualling Bills, no Price. Life Annuities, no price. Script. 1758, 98. Blanks and Prizes, 88 a 1-8th.

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By *BENJAMIN MARTIN.*

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